

Message Text

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TO SECDEF WASHDC

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CPO NSSG(US) SHAPE BELGIUM

UNCLAS USNATO 5011

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, NICSMA

SUBJECT: NICSMA VACANCY: TECHNICAL PRICE ANALYST, CONTRACTING
BRANCH, NICSMA (A.3)

DEF FOR MR. PAYNE, PERSONNEL DIVISION ODAS(A)/OASD(C);

STATE FOR EUR/RPM

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED NATO ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBJECT NICSMA VACANCY WITH CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS OF 17 OCT 75. MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT A U.S. CANDIDATE BE SOUGHT FOR SECONDMENT TO THIS POST, EVEN THOUGH THE NATO GRADE IS A.3.

2. MANY ALLIED NATIONAL DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING THE U.S., HAVE AT TIMES CRITICIZED NICSMA FOR INADEQUATE PRICE ANALYSES OF NICS PROJECTS. RECOGNIZING THIS DEFICIENCY, NICSMA TRIED TO FIND A WELL QUALIFIED CANDIDATE IN MAY 1975, BUT WERE UNSUCCESSFUL IN FINDING ONE AMONG APPLICANTS FROM NATIONS OTHER THAN U.S.: THE JOB HAS THEREFORE BEEN READVERTISED, AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, NICSMA HAS REQUESTED THAT THE U.S. DEVIATE FROM PRACTICE OF CONSIDERING FOR SECONDMENT ONLY THOSE POSTS AT GRADE AA.4 AND ABOVE. HIS BELIEF, WHICH WE SHARE, IS THAT THE U.S. IS THE BEST SOURCE OF PRICE ANALYSTS OF THE TYPE NICSMA REQUIRES.

3. CPO NSSG(US) EVALUATES THE POST AT GS-13 LEVEL, AND SUGGESTS ADVERTISING UNDER TWO CAPTIONS:
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A. CONTRACT PRICE ANALYST, GS1102-13. INCUMBENT SHOULD HAVE BROAD BACKGROUND IN PRICE ANALYSIS INVOLVING LARGE-SCALE COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS PROCUREMENT AND GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF PRODUCTION PROCESSES IN THE COMMUNICATIONS-

ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY. OR -

B. ELECTRONICS ENGINEER GS-855-13. INCUMBENT SHOULD HAVE BACKGROUND OF SPECIALIZATION IN PRODUCTION ENGINEERING OR IN A PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE FOR A COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS SYSTEM.

4. NICSMA POST DESCRIPTION FOLLOWS: QUOTE:

DUTIES: UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE CHIEF, CONTRACTING BRANCH:

- WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTIMATING LIFE-CYCLE COSTS, INCLUDING INITIAL DESIGN, PRODUCTION, TEST AND EVALUATION, OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT COSTS FOR ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM DESIGNS UNDER CONSIDERATION;

- WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING COST-EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS AND TRADE-OFF STUDIES OF ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM DESIGNS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANS IN TERMS OF ESTIMATED COSTS, SYSTEM PERFORMANCE EFFECTIVENESS AND SHCEDULES;

- WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING METHODS AND APPROACHES FOR ASSESSING TECHNICAL RISK UPON COSTS, TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE, AND SCHEDULES;

- WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT THE TECHNICAL APPROACHES PRESENTED BY BIDDERS AND CONTRACTORS HAVE ADQUATELY CONSIDERED COSTS, PERFORMANCE, TECHNICAL RISKS; THAT THE PRICING OF AN EQUIPMENT PROPERLY REPRESENTS COST REDUCTIONS DUE TO ECONOMIES OF SCALE, LEARNING CURVES, AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN THE COST PROPOSALS.

QUALIFICATIONS: UNIVERSITY DEGREE OR EQUIVALENT IN ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING WITH A GOOD FOUNDATION IN ECONOMICS AND OPERATIONS RESEARCH, TOGETHER WITH EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION IS REQUIRED:

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- SYSTEM ENGINEERING ANALYSIS AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATIONS;

- DECISION RISK ANALYSIS;

- COST ESTIMATION AND ANALYSIS;

- OPERATIONS RESEARCH AND MATHEMATICAL MODELLING;

- SOME EXPERIENCE IN PROCUREMENT OF LARGE-K SCCCAAAAE# SYSTEMS.

UNQUOTE.

5. PLEASE ADVISE.BRUCE

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